

**From:** David Phillips  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
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**Subject:** Comment on proposed Microsoft Settlement

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Greetings. I'm writing to comment on the proposed Microsoft settlement.

Microsoft's major penalty should be financial. They benefited enormously from direct and indirect effects of the intimidation tactics they employed. Also, they got caught lying bare-assed to Judge Penfield, which is a major disgrace. Under no circumstances should they be allowed to use a legal penalty to dump hardware and software onto a market segment, such as Education, which has seen a fair amount of competition over the years. For Microsoft to use your settlement as a 'free' way to kill Apple Computer, for instance, would be adding serious insult to real injury.

Alternatively, let Microsoft pay cash - not credit, not millions of copies of their inferior software with a marginal production costs of pennies per unit - to a completely independent foundation which can allocate funds to help EDUCATION. Not necessarily only for the most needy schools, but for the most needy geographical areas, such as rural or inner-city school districts. Some of those billions of dollars could - should the foundation so decide - go to local Headstart programs, for teacher professional development or to help school districts attract better-quality teachers. Math and Science teacher shortages, and the need to recruit girls into these fields, could be among the areas addressed by this foundation.

To recap:

Microsoft should just pay money. Lots of it. And the recipient foundation must be COMPLETELY independent of Microsoft. And the funds should be able to be spent to alleviate ignorance.

Clearly, Microsoft's own executives could have used some civics lessons when growing up. How about we break that cycle of ignorance in this generation?

Thanks very much,

David Phillips, PhD.

